

CITY OF LODI

COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

AGENDA TITLE:

Policy on Private Directional Signs Located Within the Public Right of Way

MEETING DATE:

April 15, 1998

PREPARED BY:

Public Works Director

RECOMMENDED ACTION: That the City Council approve the recommended policy on the installation of permanent private directional signs located within the public right of way.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The City has installed decorative signing on main routes directing traffic to the Downtown/Civic Center area. These signs, and other concerns, have sparked interest by other organizations to install similar signs for their facilities. They include the Library,

Hutchins Street Square, and, most recently, a formal request from the LOEL Center (see attached letter). Staff has concerns over the long-term ramifications of approving these requests, mainly sign proliferation, and has delayed responding in order to evaluate options.

Options

Staff sees three general policy options:

- 1) Restrictive This option would be one in which only City operated/funded or other major public facilities would be signed. These would include the existing Civic Center/Downtown signs as well as the blue "Hospital" signs located on Kettleman Lane, the green "Grape Festival", "National Guard Armory", and similar signs approved by Caltrans along the State highways and ramps. City "funded" could allow such facilities as the Boys and Girls Club to be included. This policy would also, of course, include the Library and Hutchins Street Square.
- 2) Moderate This option would allow non-profit, non-denominational organizations providing public services to have directional signs. This would include the LOEL Center, the Women's Center, and similar organizations. This could also be limited to those organizations receiving City funding, such as the Community Development Block Grant Program.
- 3) Open This option would allow any non-profit or similar organization to have directional signs. This would include churches, lodges, clubs, and similar organizations which have a membership or specific clientele.

Other Requirements

These options all begin on the basis that permanent signage for any commercial activity will not be permitted. This prohibition includes the type of directional/commercial logo signage allowed by Caltrans at highway ramps. All the options include the requirement that the requesting organization will pay for the signs and that there will be a limit as to the number of signs. In most cases, the limit would be four signs, allowing for two locations with two signs--one for each direction. Encroachment permits would be required and they would include design and maintenance provisions to City standards and the authority for the City to remove the sign(s) if not maintained. Presently, there is no fee for encroachment permits and staff intends to bring this fee issue back to the City at a later date.

APPROVED:

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04/08/98

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Staff feels either Option 1) or 2) can be reasonably defined and administered and will not lead to sign clutter. Option 3), while workable, could result in placement of an excessive number of signs.

Recommendation

Staff recommends that Option 2, with the restriction of City funding and the "other requirements", be approved and that the Public Works Department administer the policy to the approval of the City Manager.

FUNDING: Not applicable.

Richard C. Prima, Jr. Public Works Director

RCP/lm

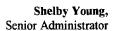
Attachment

cc: Librarian

Community Center Director Street Superintendent Associate Civil Engineer - Development Services

Traffic Engineer

LOEL Senior Center, Attn: Shelby Young, Senior Administrator





January 27, 1998

Mr. Jack A. Sieglock, Mayor City of Lodi City Hall 221 West Pine Street Lodi, CA 95240

Dear Jack:

I hope you received the LOEL Senior Center newsletter and brochure and have enjoyed reading them. We are diligently working at increasing our programs and making the community more aware of who we are, what we do and where we are located. However, we are currently faced with a small obstacle that I would like your help in addressing.

I have been working with Richard Prima for the past four months in an attempt to have the city approve directional signs to be placed on East Pine Street and Lodi Avenue. The street signs are needed to assist new participants in locating the Center and increasing the city's awareness of the Center. At this time, Richard Prima has advised me to work with city council members to have these signs approved.

As you well know, the LOEL Senior Center has an ever-growing population as adults are becoming "retirees" everyday. With this need in mind, the LOEL Senior Center hopes that the city council will continue to value and support the services the Center provides and approve the requested street signs.

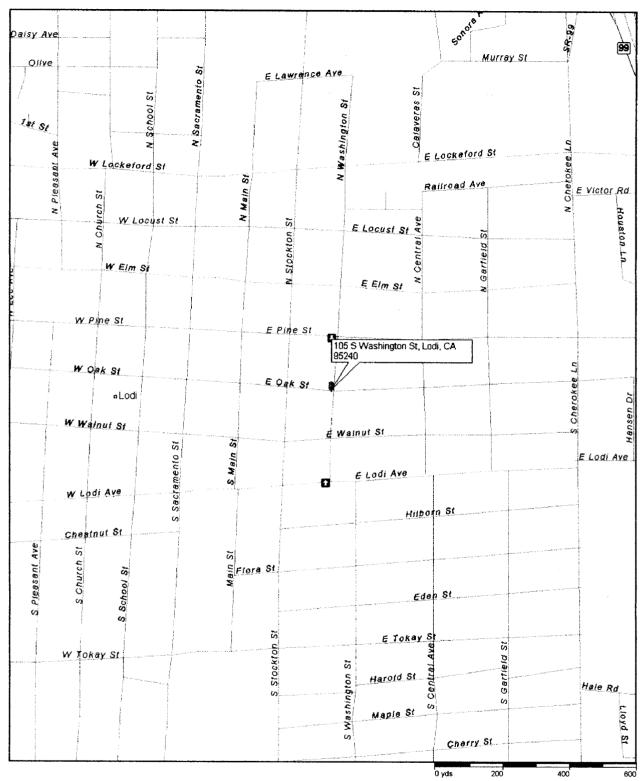
Please contact me at your earliest convenience to advise me on this issue. I sincerely thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Shelby Young

Senior Administrator LOEL Senior Center

encl. proposed street sign placement map



Streets Plus

LOEL Senior Center
Proposed Street Sign Placement

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CITY COUNCIL

JACK A. SIEGLOCK, Mayor KEITH LAND Mayor Pro Tempore ROBERT J. JOHNSON STEPHEN J. MANN PHILLIP A. PENNINO

CITY OF LODI

CITY HALL, 221 WEST PINE STREET P.O. BOX 3006 LODI, CALIFORNIA 95241-1910 (209) 333-6706 FAX (209) 333-6710

April 9, 1998

H. DIXON FLYNN
City Manager
ALICE M. REIMCHE
City Clerk
RANDALL A. HAYS
City Attorney

LOEL Senior Center Attn: Shelby Young

105 South Washington Street

Lodi, CA 95240

SUBJECT: Policy on Private Directional Signs Located Within the Public Right of Way

Enclosed is a copy of background information on an item on the City Council agenda of Wednesday, April 15, 1998. The meeting will be held at 7 p.m. in the City Council Chamber, Carnegie Forum, 305 West Pine Street.

This item is on the regular calendar for Council discussion. You are welcome to attend.

If you wish to write to the City Council, please address your letter to City Council, City of Lodi, P. O. Box 3006, Lodi, California, 95241-1910. Be sure to allow time for the mail. Or, you may hand-deliver the letter to City Hall, 221 West Pine Street.

If you wish to address the Council at the Council Meeting, be sure to fill out a speaker's card (available at the Carnegie Forum immediately prior to the start of the meeting) and give it to the City Clerk. If you have any questions about communicating with the Council, please contact Alice Reimche, City Clerk, at 333-6702.

If you have any questions about the item itself, please call Richard C. Prima, Jr., Public Works Director, at 333-6759.

Richard C. Prima, Jr. Public Works Director

RCP/do

Enclosure

cc: City Clerk